

School of Nursing

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Introduction

The mission of the WVU School of Nursing is to lead in improving health in West Virginia and the broader society through excellence in student-centered educational programs, research and scholarship, the compassionate practice of nursing, and service to the public and the profession. This mission is responsive to changing healthcare needs and emerging national and state changes in technology and healthcare delivery and is enhanced by a supportive and open environment. The faculty's educational effort is directed at providing high quality, student-centered programs of instruction at all levels which prepare superb professional nurses to meet basic healthcare needs; advance practiced nurses to address complex health needs; and enable doctorally-educated nurses to advance nursing knowledge through research, to assist in the formulation of policies to improve health care, and to serve as faculty in higher degree programs. Unique characteristics of the state mandates that the healthcare needs of rural populations and vulnerable groups be a major focus of education, research, and service, including faculty practice.

The School of Nursing offers undergraduate and graduate degrees and post-graduate certificates of study. The baccalaureate program (BSN) is available for high school graduates who aspire to a career in nursing (basic or traditional BSN program) and to registered nurses (RNs) who are licensed graduates of associate degree or diploma nursing programs seeking to continue their career development (RN to BSN program). In addition, a BS/BA to BSN (fast track) program is available for the college graduate seeking a BSN in Morgantown and Bridgeport.

The MSN programs at WVU offer baccalaureate-prepared nurses the opportunity to earn a master's degree and prepare graduates to sit for national advanced practice certification. Current specialty tracks (population emphases) are offered for aspiring pediatric nurse practitioners or family nurse practitioners. The SON also offers post-graduate certificate programs in these areas for nurses who already have a graduate degree.

The WVU School of Nursing and the WVU College of Business and Economics offers a dual master's degree program to provide the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a nurse leader. This blended degree program (totaling 57 credit hours) is done predominately online, and includes four 3-4 day residencies. Students take courses from both the MSN and MBA program concurrently. Graduates of the MSN (Executive Focus) and MBA program can work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practice, nonprofit organizations, and public sectors.

The doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program prepares nurses with graduate degrees to practice at the highest level of professional nursing. Graduates of the DNP program advance the application of nursing knowledge through the translation and implementation of evidence for practice to improve health outcomes for diverse populations. This expert-level practice builds on past advanced practice education, experience, and certification.

The DNP nurse anesthetist program prepares the student nurse anesthetist for certification in nurse anesthesia. The program includes a rigorous, challenging program of study, heavily based in sciences, including anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, chemistry, and physics.

The doctor of philosophy in nursing (PhD) prepares nurse scholars/scientists for roles in research, teaching and service. The program prepares graduates who will contribute to the body of nursing knowledge, educate the next generation, and lead, ultimately impacting health policy, improving health, and reducing disparity.

The School of Nursing has expanded its post-master's certificate program options. In addition to the PNP and FNP certificate programs, the SON offers adult gerontology acute care nurse practitioner, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, and nurse executive leadership options.

Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing/master's degree program in nursing/Doctor of Nursing Practice program at West Virginia University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

The WVU School of Nursing DNP Nurse Anesthetist Program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) until 2024. Contact the COA by phone at 847-655-1160, on the web at www.coacna.org, or at 222 S. Prospect Ave., Suite 304, Park Ridge, IL 60068-4001.

Fees, Expenses, Housing, Transportation, and Immunization

Students enrolling at the Morgantown campus pay fees which are detailed on the Cost and Aid page of the West Virginia University Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://admissions.wvu.edu/cost-and-aid/>). Special fees and deposits are also required. Students enrolling at other sites pay the fees shown in the catalog for that site. Fees are subject to change without notice. Students' expenses vary according to the course of study and individual needs. Information concerning financial assistance, application forms, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form may be obtained from the Professional - Health Sciences Center page of the Student Financial Services website (<https://financialaid.wvu.edu/students/professional-hsc/>) or by contacting the HSC Financial Aid Office, PO Box 9810, Morgantown, WV 26506-9810; telephone (304) 293-3706 (toll free) or 1-800-344-WVU1.

The University Housing and Residence Life Office, telephone (304) 293-4491, provides information concerning university-owned housing. The Student Life Office in E. Moore Hall, telephone (304) 293-5611, provides information concerning privately owned, off-campus housing.

Students are expected to provide their own transportation, equipment, and instruments for the clinical courses. Some clinical experiences require travel in a multi-county area.

Students entering the traditional BSN or BS/BA to BSN program are required to participate in the WVU Health Sciences Center Student Computer Program. A laptop computer will be issued to all students entering these programs. Please visit the Undergraduate Programs page of the West Virginia University School of Nursing website (<https://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/students/undergraduate-programs/bachelor-of-science/>) for more information.

Proof of specific immunizations is required for all health sciences students. Students in the BSN, BA/BS to BSN, RN to BSN, MSN, DNP, and post graduate certificate nursing programs must undergo a criminal background check prior to clinical courses. Felony convictions, serious misdemeanors, illicit drug use, or positive drug screens may result in admission ineligibility or program dismissal.

Scholarships

The School of Nursing offers several scholarships. These scholarships are administered by the Health Science Center Financial Aid Office and require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in order to be considered for financial aid. Most School of Nursing scholarships are available only to students already admitted to the School of Nursing and are awarded each April for the following academic year. However, there are a limited number of scholarships for which students may apply before admission. Further information is provided on the Student Resources page of the West Virginia University School of Nursing website (<https://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/students/resources/>).

Additional Information

Visit the West Virginia University School of Nursing website (<https://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/>). Call the WVU school of Nursing Office of Student Services at 1-866-WVUNURS or (304) 293-1386. Write to WVU School of Nursing at PO Box 9600, Morgantown, WV 26506-9600

ADMINISTRATION

DEAN

- Tara F. Hulsey - PhD (University of South Carolina)

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF CURRICULUM

- Stacy Huber - EdD (West Virginia University)
Clinical Education Associate Professor

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Brad Phillips - PhD (West Virginia University)
Assistant Professor

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

- Ubolrat Piamjariyakul - PhD (University of Kansas)
Professor

ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT AND ALUMNI SERVICES

- Gregory T. Cave - BA (West Virginia University)

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR FACULTY PRACTICE

- Emily Barnes - DNP (West Virginia University)
Clinical Professor

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Angel Smothers - DNP (West Virginia University)
Clinical Associate Professor

DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DEAN OF BUSINESS & FINANCE

- Karis P. Wolfe - MBA (West Virginia University)

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- Heather Carter-Templeton - PhD (The University of Tennessee Health Science Center)
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CHAIR-DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY/COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Billie Vance - PhD (West Virginia University)
Clinical Associate Professor

CHAIR, BECKLEY DIVISION

- Hillary Parcel - MSN (West Virginia University)
Clinical Education Assistant Professor

CHAIR, BRIDGEPORT DIVISION

- Veronica Gallo - PhD (West Virginia University)
Clinical Education Assistant Professor

CHAIR, CHARLESTON DIVISION

- Theresa Cowan - DHed (A.T.Still University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Professions)
Teaching Associate Professor

CHAIR, KEYSER DIVISION

- April L. Shapiro - PhD (West Virginia University)
Assistant Professor

DIRECTOR OF EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION

- Ashley Tasker - EdD (West Virginia University)
Clinical Education Assistant Professor

DIRECTOR, PHD PROGRAMS

- Roger Carpenter - PhD (West Virginia University)
Associate Professor

DIRECTOR, MSN/DNP PROGRAMS

- Kendra Baker - DNP (West Virginia University)
Clinical Associate Professor

DIRECTOR, CRNA PROGRAM

- Aaron Ostrowski - PhD (University of Pittsburgh)
Clinical Assistant Professor

DIRECTOR, UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Tina Antill-Keener - PhD (West Virginia University)
Assistant Professor

DIRECTOR OF NURSING SIMULATION

- Andrea Bailey - MSN (West Virginia University)
Clinical Education Instructor

DIRECTOR, CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Rebecca Smeltzer - DNP (Case Western Reserve University)
Teaching Assistant Professor

FACULTY

PROFESSORS

- Jennifer Mallow - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Mary Jane Smith - PhD (University of New York)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Susan Newfield - PhD (Texas Tech University)
- Suzy Walter - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Kesheng Wang - PhD (Augusta University)

CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- Angel Smothers - DNP (West Virginia University)

CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Amy Ankrom - MSN (University of Pittsburgh)
- Dana Friend - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Susan McKenrick - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Elizabeth A. Minchau - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Kellon Smith - DNAP - Saint Vincent College
- Kayla Watson - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Stephanie Young - MSN (Gonzaga University)

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- Christy Barnhart - DHSc (California University of Pennsylvania)
- Patricia J. Maramba - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Tonya Thompson - MSN (Waynesburg University)
- Joanne Watson - MSN (University of Virginia)

CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Kimberly Adams - MSN (Waynesburg University)
- Amanda Edwards - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Ann Hendrickson - DNP (University of South Alabama)
- Alexis Hicks - EdD (Grand Canyon University)
- Donna Leonard - MSN (Walden University)
- Jessica Matthews - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Danielle McGinnis - MSN (Waynesburg University)
- Amy Miner - MSN (Waynesburg University)
- Marian Reven - MSN (Walden University)
- Stacy Russell - MSN (Wheeling Jesuit University)
- Laura Vollmer - MSN (Chamberlain University)
- Amber Walker Ziese - MSN (Marshall University)

CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

- Colleen Kroll - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Kelly Lemon - MSN (Georgetown University)
- Amanda Nicola - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Joanne Rose - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Arden Townsend - MSN (West Virginia University)

TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Diana L. McCarty - MSN (West Virginia University)

SENIOR LECTURER

- Ashley Barber - PhD (West Virginia University)

LECTURERS

- Debbie Bellisario - MSN (University of Phoenix)
- Michael Bellisario - BSN (West Virginia University)
- Gina Greathouse - MSN (University of North Carolina - Charlotte)

- Angela Jeffries - DNP (Missouri State University)
- David Keefover - MSN (Liberty University)
- Julia Linton - MSN (York College of Pennsylvania)
- Marian Longstreth - DNP (Waynesburg University)
- S. Beth Stiles - MSN (West Virginia University)
- R. Elaine Taylor - MSN (West Virginia University)

INSTRUCTORS

- Derrick Conner - BSN (Waynesburg University)

DEAN EMERITUS

- E. Jane Martin - PhD (University of Pittsburgh)

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- Laurie Badzek - MSN/JD (University of DePaul)
- Sandra "Sam" Cotton - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Susan Coyle - PhD (West Virginia University)
- June Larrabee - PhD (University of Tennessee)
- Nan Leslie - PhD (University of Pittsburgh)
- Susan H. McCrone - PhD (University of Utah)
- Gaynelle McKinney - MSN,ED (Indiana University)
- Georgia Narsavage - PhD (University of Pennsylvania)
- Alvita Nathaniel - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Barbara Nunley - PhD (University of Kentucky)
- Aletha Rowlands - PhD (University of Virginia)

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- Peggy Burkhardt - PhD (University of Miami)
Charleston Division
- Pamela Deiriggi - PhD (University of Texas)
- Imogene P. Foster - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Debra Harr - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Nancy A. Koontz - MSN (University of Maryland)
- Barbara Kupchak - PhD (University of Texas)
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- C. Lynne Ostrow - EdD (West Virginia University)
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- Elisabeth Shelton - PhD (Widener University)
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- Daniel DeFeo - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Suzanne Gross - PhD (University of Texas)
- Dorothy M. Johnson - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Susan Pinto - MSN (West Virginia University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- Robin Spencer - MSN (Marshall University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Mindy Harris - MSN (Marshall University)
- Kelly Morton - MSN (Capella University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION LECTURERS

- Kelley Coleman - BSN (West Virginia University)
- Debra Crowder - MSN (Philadelphia University)
- Kathy Talley - MA (Marshall University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

- Linda Angus - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Cynthia Clark - MSN (Chamberlain University)
- Engleish Flynn - MSN (Walden University)
- Heather Wood - BSN (Liberty University)

BRIDGEPORT DIVISION CLINICAL EDUCATION PROFESSOR

- Tanya Rogers - EdD (West Virginia University)

BRIDGEPORT DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Kimberly Derico - MSN (Marshall University)

BRIDGEPORT DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS

- Linda Griffith - BSN (West Virginia University)
- Kelly Hazuka - MSN (West Virginia University)

CHARLESTON DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Katherine Atassi - PhD (Medical University of South Carolina)
- Jarena Kelly - DNP (West Virginia University)

CHARLESTON DIVISION - TEACHING ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Evelyn Martin - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Teresa Ritchie - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Crystal Sheaves - PhD (West Virginia University)
Director of Clinical Placements

CHARLESTON DIVISION-TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Melanie Whelan - PhD (West Virginia University)

KEYSER DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS

- Krystal Abucevicz-Swick - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Kasey Beckman-Sirk - DNP (Chamberlain College of Nursing)
- Heather Coddington - MSN (Capella University)
- Matthew Hottle - MSN (Walden University)
- Diana Niland - PhD (West Virginia University)

KEYSER DIVISION - LECTURER

- Mary Beth McCloud - PhD (Medical University of South Carolina)

Degree Designation Learning Outcomes

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN)

Upon completion of the BSN program, graduates will:

CRITICAL THINKING: Employ scholarly inquiry and evidence-based reasoning and creativity in the process of assessment, interpretation, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and inference as a basis for professional nursing practice.

NURSING INTERVENTIONS: Ensure quality care by applying theory, evidence-based clinical judgment and decision-making, and patient care technology in the delivery of safe and skilled nursing therapeutics with individuals, families, communities, and populations across the health-illness continuum.

PROFESSIONAL ROLE: Demonstrate knowledge, attitudes, professional values, personal qualities and behaviors consistent with the nursing roles of health care designer and coordinator, organization and system leader, and advocate for consumers and the nursing profession.

CARING: Provide empathetic, culturally sensitive, and compassionate care for individuals, families, communities, and populations that upholds moral, legal, and ethical humanistic principles.

COMMUNICATION: Integrate therapeutic, interpersonal, intraprofessional, interprofessional and informatics communication processes in professional nursing practice.

Academic Standards and Graduation Requirements

PRE-NURSING PROGRESSION POLICY

Students admitted to the University as "Pre-Nursing" students must maintain good academic standing and a 3.0 GPA beginning with the first semester at WVU. If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, they will be placed on probation for one semester. If the student's GPA remains below 3.0 for a second semester, the student will be dismissed from "Pre-Nursing".

Student athletes or students involved in University-sponsored organizations who, as a part of their participation may be required to be absent from either classroom or clinical experiences, must provide course coordinators with potential dates of absence during the first week of class. Excessive absences may jeopardize student success in nursing courses.

Note: Keyser Campus (Potomac State) policies for general nursing (Pre-Nursing) are different. Please refer to the Potomac State catalog for details.

DIRECT ADMISSION FRESHMAN PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students admitted directly to nursing as freshman must fulfill direct admission academic progression requirements to maintain advanced standing as a direct admission student and enter the sophomore level nursing courses. If students do not meet the requirements in the freshman year, they will be moved to the Pre-Nursing major and will have the opportunity to enter the Pre-Nursing BSN program applicant pool for consideration for program re-entry and progression to the sophomore nursing courses.

Freshman year academic progression standards for direct admit students in the BSN program include:

- Maintaining good academic standing
- Completion of all prerequisite coursework with a C - or better prior to the end of the summer term of the freshman year
- Maintaining a 3.0 overall GPA or better at the end of the first semester (higher GPAs are recommended in preparation for the rigorous nursing curriculum)
- Achieving or maintaining a cumulative 3.5 GPA or better at the end of the second semester of the freshman year

TRADITIONAL AND BS/BA TO BSN ACADEMIC STANDARDS & PROGRESSION POLICIES

From entry into sophomore nursing courses to program completion, students must fulfill the following academic requirements to maintain good academic standing.

1. GPA

- Students must maintain an overall college GPA of at least 3.0.
- GPA for BA/BS-BSN students is calculated using the pre-requisite GPA plus quality points and credits earned each semester. This running tally must be a GPA of at least a 3.0
- Students who do not maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.0 will be placed on probation for one semester. Students who do not raise their overall GPA to 3.0, after one semester on probation, will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

2. Required course grades

- All courses used to earn the BSN degree must be completed with a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who earn a grade of D or F in more than one course used to earn the BSN degree will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
- All courses used to earn the BSN degree in which students earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU must be repeated prior to the student's progression to the next semester in the nursing sequence. Nursing courses must be repeated in the next spring or fall semester that the course is offered. There is an exception to this individual standard regarding nursing electives; students who receive a W in a nursing elective are not required to repeat it.

3. Repeats

- Students who receive a D, F, W or WU in a course used to earn the BSN degree may repeat the course only once and must earn a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who repeat a course used to earn the BSN degree and earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

- In the last semester of the program, students are permitted to repeat one nursing course in which a D, F, W, or WU was received even if the student previously repeated another course and would have otherwise been dismissed. Students are not permitted to repeat the same course twice.

4. Readmission

- Students who have been dismissed from the BSN or BS/BS to BSN programs are not eligible for readmission.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for nursing courses using letter/numerical values is: A= 93-100, B = 85-92, C = 77-84, D = 70-76, F = 69 and below.

RN TO BSN ACADEMIC STANDARDS & PROGRESSION POLICIES

1. GPA

- Students must maintain a Nursing GPA of at least 2.5.
- Students who do not maintain a Nursing GPA of at least 2.5 will be placed on probation for one semester.
- Students who do not raise their Nursing GPA to 2.5, after one semester on probation, will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

2. Required course grades

- All courses used to earn the BSN degree must be completed with a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who earn a grade of D or F in more than one course used to earn the BSN degree will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

3. Repeats

- Students who receive a D, F, W or WU in a course used to earn the BSN degree may repeat the course only once and must earn a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who repeat a course used to earn the BSN degree and earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
- In the last semester of the program, students are permitted to repeat one nursing course in which a D, F, W, or WU was received even if the student previously repeated another course and would have otherwise been dismissed. Students are not permitted to repeat the same course twice.

4. Readmission

- Students who have been dismissed from the RN to BSN program are not eligible for readmission to the same program.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for nursing courses using letter/numerical values is: A= 93-100, B = 85-92, C = 77-84, D = 70-76, F = 69 and below.

Accreditation

The School of Nursing has specialized accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, the master's degree program in nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at West Virginia University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.